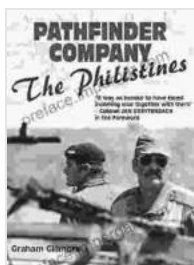


# Pathfinder Company: The Philistines 44 Parachute Brigade

The Pathfinder Company was a British Army unit formed in 1942. It was a specialist unit, trained to parachute into enemy territory and establish a foothold for the main invasion force. The company was made up of volunteers from the Parachute Regiment and the Royal Engineers.



## Pathfinder Company: The Philistines 44 Parachute Brigade by Graham Gillmore

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 10118 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 298 pages  
Lending : Enabled



The Pathfinder Company played a vital role in many of the most important battles of World War II, including the D-Day landings in Normandy and the Battle of Arnhem. The company was also involved in the liberation of France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

After the war, the Pathfinder Company was disbanded. However, its legacy lives on. The company's motto, "First in, last out," is still used by the Parachute Regiment today.

## **Formation and Training**

The Pathfinder Company was formed on 21 June 1942. The company was initially commanded by Major John Rock. Rock was a veteran of the North African Campaign and had been awarded the Military Cross for his bravery.

The Pathfinder Company was made up of volunteers from the Parachute Regiment and the Royal Engineers. The volunteers were all highly skilled and experienced soldiers. They were trained in parachuting, demolition, and navigation.

The Pathfinder Company's training was rigorous. The men were trained to parachute into enemy territory in all conditions. They were also trained to operate behind enemy lines for extended periods of time.

## **Operational History**

The Pathfinder Company first saw action in Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily in July 1943. The company was tasked with parachuting into enemy territory and establishing a foothold for the main invasion force.

The Pathfinder Company successfully completed its mission and played a vital role in the Allied victory in Sicily. The company also saw action in the D-Day landings in Normandy in June 1944. The company was tasked with parachuting into enemy territory and securing the Pegasus Bridge.

The Pathfinder Company successfully completed its mission and played a vital role in the Allied victory in Normandy. The company also saw action in the Battle of Arnhem in September 1944. The company was tasked with parachuting into enemy territory and securing the Arnhem Bridge.

The Pathfinder Company was not as successful in Arnhem as it had been in Sicily and Normandy. The company was heavily outnumbered and outgunned by the German forces. The company suffered heavy casualties and was eventually forced to withdraw.

After the war, the Pathfinder Company was disbanded. However, its legacy lives on. The company's motto, "First in, last out," is still used by the Parachute Regiment today.

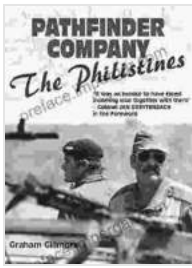
## **Legacy**

The Pathfinder Company was a highly skilled and experienced unit that played a vital role in many of the most important battles of World War II. The company's legacy lives on today. The Parachute Regiment still uses the Pathfinder Company's motto, "First in, last out."

The Pathfinder Company is a reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of the British Army during World War II. The company's story is one of courage, determination, and resilience.

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